

REMARKS

In the Advisory Action mailed 03/13/2006, the Examiner states: "More favorable consideration would be given with respect to the 35 U.S.C. 102(c) rejection over Shiobara et al. Patent No. 6,376,100 and the 35 U.S.C. 103(a) over Christie et al. Patent No. 5,668,059 and Johansson et al. Patent No. 6,090,474 in view of Shiobara et al. '100 if the following changes to the claims are implemented:

Claim 1, replace lines 3-4 with "from about 1.0% by weight to about 5% by weight of the composition of a flexibilizing agent comprising a flexibilizer containing functional groups capable of reaction with the epoxy or cyanate ester resin during thermally induced curing, and a thermoplastic other than the flexibilizer, wherein the thermoplastic is separated from the cured epoxy or cyanate ester resin;" (There is no support for the claimed first flexibilizer having "groups that connect crosslink sites in a network of the composition in the last line of claims 1 and 41. The terminology hereinabove is substantiated by page 17, lines 26-28 of the specification.)

The limitation recited hereinabove should be incorporated into claim 41, line 7 in the paragraph referring to the flexibilizing agent.

Claims 51-53 and 75-77 should be cancelled."

In response, Applicant has amended the claims in conformity with the preceding suggestion by the Examiner.

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CONCLUSION

Based on the preceding arguments, Applicants respectfully believe that all pending claims and the entire application meet the acceptance criteria for allowance and therefore request favorable action. If the Examiner believes that anything further would be helpful to place the application in better condition for allowance, Applicants invites the Examiner to contact Applicants' representative at the telephone number listed below. The Director is hereby authorized to charge and/or credit Deposit Account No. 09-0457.

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